

The Oriental Question.

BY D. CLEMENT DUPONT O. S. B.

We are happy to announce to our readers that a series of articles dealing with the political and religious events in the Holy Land will appear in the coming issues of the Indian Advocate. The contributor is a learned Benedictine of Sacred Heart who has been residing in Palestine for the last five years and has studied the Oriental Question at close range. Every Christian is deeply interested in the future of that land sanctified by the life and death of our Holy Redeemer.

Dear Father Vincent;

With all true friends of the Indian Advocate, old and new, I heartily rejoice at the rejuvenating of our periodical which, being now entrusted to your care, will be an unqualified success. I will be only too happy to avail myself of your kind invitation and to send you some short letters dealing with the religious and political events of the Holy Land.

It is, indeed, too wide a subject to be treated in one article. Hence I shall more than once write from Jerusalem, craving only the readers' indulgence for whatever deficiencies they may find in my communications.

The geographical status of Palestine is so well known that I may deem it unnecessary to enter into details, save to point out that Holy Land has long ceased to be officially called Palestine, as it now forms but a portion of the South-Western Province of the Ottoman Empire in Asia. It has nevertheless outlived the invasion of Mohammedanism in the hearts of Christian nations which are ever mindful of the blessings that were bestowed on redeemed mankind through the holy mysteries which ever point out the cradle of Christianity to our veneration.

The rapid strides of the immigration movement, whether of Christian pilgrims and tourists or of Jewish settlers, toge-